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DOINGS IN CONGRESS

The Senate and House Regularly at

Work—What They are Doing.

The agricultural appropriation bill was considered in the House, but the debate turned principally on the topic of restricting the railroads in the matter of freight rates. As if impatient to deal with the subject, the Hepburn bill, although not before the House, and which probably will not be for several days, formed the basis of the discussion. A feature of the debate was the statement by Mr. Williams, of Mississippi, who said that on the subject of revision of rates the Democratic party was committed without addition or subtraction to the recommendations of President Roosevelt in his recent message. The Democrats, he said, were glad to have the President's views, "because it was a Democratic doctrine." It ought, he said, to be American doctrine, and he said he was only too glad that the President was more of an American than a Republican or Democrat. "We will, to mark his tracks on this subject," declared Mr. Williams, amid great applause, "and," he continued, facing the Republican side, "we will call on you as American citizens to help us to mark them."

Mr. Williams later asserted it as his belief that railroad influences were felt in the Senate at the same time the so-called Cullom bill, establishing the inter-State commerce commission, was substituted by the Senate conferees for the so-called Reagan bill. The latter bill, he declared, would have fulfilled the requirements.

Mr. Bell, of California, asserted that the Hepburn bill was so worded as to be indefinite as to what constituted a reasonable rate.

Consideration of the agricultural bill had not been concluded when the House adjourned.

Agricultural Bill Passes House.

The House Friday passed the agricultural appropriation bill without material amendment. During its consideration the usual discussion of the provision for free seed distribution was indulged in. Mr. Lilly, of Connecticut, characterizing it as petty larceny.

Mr. Pou, of North Carolina, wanted the appropriation increased to \$400,000 and offered an amendment to that effect at the same time remarking that it would cost more than that to inaugurate President Roosevelt. The amendment was rejected.

The present system of the Agricultural Department in publishing cotton reports was denounced by Mr. Livingston, of Georgia, as damnable and shameful, and he pleaded for some one to submit an amendment requiring that the reports shall be published every two weeks, in order to stop gambling in cotton. He would, he said, have offered such an amendment himself had he not been "thrown down and turned out of doors" when he brought in a resolution of the same character some time ago.

Mr. Maddox, of Georgia, declared that the Census Bureau and Agricultural Department were vying with each other in duplicating the cotton report. The publication of cotton statistics by the Census Bureau he considered senseless. By abolishing the latter, he thought there should be no difficulty in publishing the reports every two weeks.

Mr. Bartlett, of Georgia, said that as between the two reports, it was his opinion that the census report was the more valuable. A colloquy ensued between himself and Mr. Maddox, each insisting he was right, in his contention. Both reports were pronounced by Mr. Burleson, of Texas, to be necessary, he maintaining that the work of each was separate and distinct.

Senators Eulogize Hoar.

Eulogies upon the character of the late Senator George F. Hoar, of Massachusetts, practically engrossed the time of the Senate. There were 16 speeches by as many Senators, including Senator Hoar's colleague, Mr. Lodge, and his successor, Mr. Crane. After the conclusion of the memorial services, the Senate adjourned out of respect to the dead Senator's memory. Among the speakers were Messrs. Daniel, Bacon and Cockerell.

Mr. Pettus took occasion to speak especially of Senator Hoar's fairness to the South in the period succeeding the war, saying: "He was throughout it all a man of infinite compassion, of comprehensive sympathies, of noble and unselfish impulses. He was a partisan without rancor, an antagonist without bitterness, a friend without reservations and conditions, a conqueror without vengeance, a loser without resentment."

Twice married within an hour—the second time in an automobile—was the romantic termination of the courtship of Christian Silistia, a young business man of Parkston, S. D., and the lady of his choice, who came from Iowa for the purpose of uniting her fortunes with those of the young South Dakotan.

Mr. Silistia, after producing a marriage license, met his sweetheart at Scotland, Bon Homme county, where they were promptly wedded by Rev. A. M. Thurston.

When the marriage certificate was being prepared it was discovered that the marriage license had been issued in Hutchinson county.

As the state law requires marriage ceremonies to be performed in the county in which a license is issued, the pair were in a quandry until the clergyman's wife came to their rescue by suggesting that they induce Dr. Seagley, a local physician, to take the wedding party in his automobile across the border to Hutchinson county.

The couple, together with the clergyman and physician, got into the automobile, which was soon speeding in the direction of the Hutchinson county line, only a few miles away.

As soon as the party had crossed the border, and while the automobile was spinning over a public highway, a new marriage ceremony was performed.—New York World.

No man's back ever breaks under the burdens of others.

PROMISES AID TO WORKMEN

Czar Proclaims Plan For Shorter

Work Day and Other Reforms.

DESIRE ALL TO RETURN TO WORK

Declares This to Be as Needful to the Good of the Country as to Themselves — Proclamation Issued by Personal Order of the Emperor—Threat of Deportation Made by General Trepoff.

St. Petersburg, Russia.—Governor-General Trepoff and Minister of Finance Kokovsov issued a proclamation which reveals the Government's plan for breaking the strike, not only here, but throughout Russia.

The proclamation is conceived in a paternal tone, and points out that honest workmen, who want to better their condition, should have brought their demands to the Government instead of being misled by agitators into affiliating with a movement which is not confined to economic aspirations.

It invites them to return to work, promising them in the Emperor's name a revision of the general law so as to restrict the hours of labor, the institution of a plan for State insurance, and otherwise to meet their demands so far as the law will permit, and guarantees them protection against interference by agitators. It says:

"Workmen should assist the Government in its tranquilizing task on behalf of the betterment of their conditions. This can be accomplished in a single manner—namely, by holding themselves aloof from fomenters of disturbance, who are alien to the workmen's true interest and to the country's welfare."

"Let them return to their ordinary labor, which is as needful for the country as for themselves, for without it, they, their wives, and children must suffer distress; and, returning to work, let the people be assured that their needs are as near the Emperor's heart as those of all his Majesty's true subjects; that only recently, of his own free will, the Emperor commanded that the question of workmen's insurance be taken up with the object of securing them against disablement or sickness, and that this measure does not exhaust his Majesty's anxiety for the well-being of the working classes, for at the same time the Emperor sent an order instructing the Minister of Finance to draft a law shortening the hours of labor and for the elaboration of such measures as will legalize workmen's discussions of their needs."

The proclamation, which, it is announced, was issued by the Emperor's order, in its preamble, recounts the origin of the recent events, and declares that evil-disposed persons used the workmen as their tools, leading them astray by false and impossible promises. It says:

"The result of this criminal agitation has been breaches of the peace, involving the inevitable intervention of armed forces. These evil-wishers have been restrained even by the difficulties in which the fatherland is involved in a time of trying war, while the workmen, their blind tools, have disregarded the fact that demands were being made in their name which had nothing in common with their needs, besides forgetting that the Government always has shown and ever shows itself considerate of their needs, and is now ready to listen attentively to their just desires and satisfy them wherever possible."

This document will be followed either by an imperial manifesto, slowing the spread of the strike, or by specific proclamations by the local authorities wherever strikes are in progress. By promising to yield the question of the hours of labor, which are now legally eleven in Russia, the authorities believe they will meet the main grievance of the workmen.

BRITISH SQUADRON COMING.

New and Fast, Cruisers Will Visit American Ports.

London, England.—The second British cruiser squadron, under command of Prince Louis of Battenberg, will sail in February on an eight-month cruise, visiting American ports among others. All the vessels are of the most recent construction. It will be the fastest squadron that has ever left Great Britain on an extended cruise. The Drake, the flagship, has a speed of twenty-four knots, while the Berwick, Cumberland, Cornwall, Essex and another can each make twenty-three knots.

CABLE SNAP KILLS FIFTEEN.

Cage in French Slate Quarry Drops Fifty Feet to Destruction.

Paris, France.—Fifteen men have been killed owing to the breaking of the cable supporting a cage in which they were being brought to the surface at the Renaissance slate quarry, near Angers. The cage dropped fifty feet.

Agreement on P. R. R.

After a short conference in Philadelphia it was announced that an agreement had been reached between the Pennsylvania Railroad and the disaffected trainmen.

Crocker Coming Home.

It was learned that Richard Crocker, father of Frank H. Crocker, who was killed in an automobile accident in Florida, would sail for New York City at once.

Effective Fish Lure.

Nick Ogelvie, a Rangeley guide, and Hall Grant were at Supt. Pond, Me., fishing the other day and when they got ready to cast they found that they were not so well supplied with flies as they ought to have been. A bright thought struck Nick and he took off his artificial fly watch chain, broke the glass, tied the fly on and began casting. The trout came in swarms and he had great sport.

MINOR EVENTS OF THE WEEK

WASHINGTON.

The trustees of the Peabody Fund voted to dissolve the trust. The fund now amounts to about \$2,200,000, of which \$1,000,000 will be given to the Peabody School in Nashville, Tenn.

Utah women were called in behalf of Senator Reed Smoot in the investigation by the Senate Committee on Privileges and Elections.

The Army Appropriation bill was passed, after an amendment providing that retired officers above the rank of major shall not receive the full pay of their grades when serving with State militia.

Mr. Degetau, the Commissioner from Porto Rico, made his first speech in Congress.

President Roosevelt appointed Governor Brodie, of Arizona, Assistant Chief of the Record and Pension Division of the War Department, withdrawing the nomination of Major Edward S. Fowler for the same place.

John Flinn, Superintendent of Indian Schools at Chamberlain, S. D., has presented the President with a Sioux war bonnet and a buckskin coat. These articles were secured by Dakota admirers of the President and sent by Agent Flinn.

OUR ADOPTED ISLANDS.

Sorrow was felt throughout the islands for the death of the American Army officers recently killed in skirmishes with the Moros.

DOMESTIC.

Captain Van Wart, pilot of the General Slocum, and Supervising Steamboat Inspector Rodie were witnesses at the trial of Inspectors Lundberg and Fleming in New York City on charges of manslaughter.

A lone robber entered the photographic studio of Rudolph Wilhelm on the eighth floor of the American Tract Society Building, in New York City, struck Wilhelm unconscious with a sandbag and escaped with a small roll of bills.

The diamonds and other jewels, valued at \$35,000, which were stolen from Mr. and Mrs. W. S. Eder, of New York City, in their apartment in the Hotel Maryland, Pasadena, Cal., were found by the police. Carl Wilson, another Hotel Maryland bellboy, was arrested and told the police where the thieves had buried the gems.

Twelve charges on which the impeachment of Judge Lacombe, of the United States District Court, is demanded were sent to every Representative in Congress by the law firm of Watt & Doban, of Philadelphia.

The Rogers Locomotive Work, at Paterson, N. J., have been sold to the American Locomotive Company.

W. J. Bryan argued at New Haven, Conn., his appeal in the Bennett will case.

Judge George W. Ray denied that he was responsible for the delay in bringing George E. Green, of Birmingham, N. Y., to trial for complicity in postal frauds.

Raid on three storage warehouses in New York City yielded two large van loads and five wagon loads of gambling instruments, the largest haul in one day's work in the history of the city.

Mr. Takahira, the Japanese Minister, said that one of the things Japan was fighting for was China's administrative entity.

Delegate Randall, of Wyoming, who charged President Mitchell with having sold out the Colorado miners, was expelled from the United Mine Workers of America.

S. C. T. Dodd, for thirty years general solicitor of the Standard Oil Company, resigned.

In the cases of Policeman Frank McLaughlin and Policeman Devanna, of New York City, both on trial for murder, the juries found both guilty of manslaughter in the first degree.

Widows and orphans of the General Slocum disaster attended the trial in New York City of the inspectors charged with the responsibility for the disaster.

Through Chancellor Whitelaw Reid a petition was presented to the Regents of the University of the State of New York, asking the removal of Melvil Dewey, State librarian.

FOREIGN.

The strikers, who numbered nearly 220,000, were simply awaiting the influence of public opinion on the coal mine proprietors and the efforts of the German Government to assist in the settlement.

Finland can have all the guns it wants when the time comes for revolt against Russia, it was reported. These arms were partly procured in England. Arms will also be supplied to Poland.

China's reply to Russia's charge of a violation of neutrality was presented to Secretary Hay. It is a general denial. Counter charges against Russia are set up.

Grand Duke Vladimir, of Russia, ordered 500 machine guns from a German factory.

Three Austrian Army corps moving to the Galician frontier gave ground for the theory that half a dozen Russian provinces may be "pacified" into Austrian territory.

American warships were sent to Santo Domingo to enforce the protectorate upon the insurgents.

Empress Eugenie, a special cable dispatch stated, is making a tour in Egypt and has been welcomed by the Suez Canal administration.

A special cable dispatch from Rome, Italy, announced the death of Prince Cescchi, Grand Master of the Knights of Malta.

The resignation of the Combes Ministry was accepted by President Loubet of France.

Baron Cautch, new Austrian Premier, in opening the lower house of the Reichsrath made an effort for reconciliation of the Germans and Czechs.

Six persons were killed and nine seriously injured in a collision of three trains on the Midland Railway, England.

Chancellor von Buelow, in a speech in the German Reichstag, referred to the action of President Roosevelt on the regulation of trusts.

SOUTHERN FARM NOTES.

TOPICS OF INTEREST TO THE PLANTER, STOCKMAN AND TRUCK GROWER.

Experience in Feeding Milk.

A writer in the Southern Planter recommends feeding milk to the poultry. For young growing chickens and for laying hens its value can hardly be overestimated.

The great benefit to be derived from the feeding of milk to fowls seems to be almost entirely ignored by the majority of poultry keepers. When corn is the principal ration, as is the case on the majority of farms, a liberal supply of milk to balance up this ration will be found most profitable in the return of eggs. If hens are fed all the milk they can be induced to drink along with a corn ration, great gains can be expected in the egg production. Last year we fed our fowls largely on corn, especially our laying hens, and for a balanced ration we supplied all the milk we could spare, and the result was a better production of eggs than in any previous winter. On farms where there is a good supply of milk there should be no reason for not receiving a large number of eggs. Where milk is supplied liberally, animal food in the form of cut green bone can be reduced, as milk furnishes largely the elements found in bone. Milk and corn make a much better combination than milk, wheat and oats. Feed the layers milk and corn, alternately with green food in the shape of cabbage or prepared clover, and you have a most ideal food for egg-production. Milk can be given in almost unlimited quantities without any serious results following. It very often happens that feeding meat too freely produces diarrhoea, which checks the supply of eggs, but in feeding milk we do not experience such unfavorable results. On the contrary, where it is not convenient for the farmer to get bone from the butcher, he can supply milk instead, which is almost or quite as good as bone. We know a lady who feeds corn and milk the year round to both young and old, with very satisfactory results, using the sour milk (after boiling it) in mash with the young growing stock. Next season we shall use boiled sour milk, wheat bran and cornmeal, sprinkled with pulverized charcoal for our young chickens, believing we have a food that will be wholesome, palatable and inexpensive compared to some of the prepared chick foods now on the market. At the same time we shall provide skimmed milk as we have previously done for the fowls to drink, believing we can realize more from the produce in feeding in this way than any other way we could feed it, realizing that it will be practically impossible to get too much milk before our fowls. If a patch of wheat or rye is sown close to the poultry run to supply green stuff naturally for the fowls during the winter months, and they are constantly supplied with milk, we stake our all on it that eggs will be plentiful, stock healthy and vigorous, with the assurance of strong fertility in eggs when the breeding season opens up.

For Better Farming in the South.

The Southern farmer has had heavy burdens to carry for a number of years, and the situation, while much improved, needs to be carefully considered. There is a vast difference between bad farming, fairly good farming and first-rate farming.

No farmer ought to be satisfied with anything less than first-rate farming. Now, first-rate farming begins with the soil. All soils are not alike. One lacks one ingredient, on another. Some soil is too wet, some not moist enough, but within certain lines the condition of the soil depends upon the man who tills it.

If there is too much moisture it must be drained and lime must be added. Then there must be plowing that will pulverize the soil, break up the clods, release those imprisoned chemical agents that work for the life of the plant.

Starting with better drainage and with better plowing, you come to the crops. It is well recognized now that certain crops enrich the soil through the elements they draw from the atmosphere. Clover was long recognized as a good fertilizer without knowing just why. We know why now, and in the South, especially, we know that the cowpea is just as good, in many soils better, and in the West we know that alfalfa is the great regenerator of the soil. There are many places in the South where alfalfa can be used beneficially, and it ought to be experimented with much more frequently than it has been.

Home and Farm, looking back over a career of twenty-five years, congratulates itself in that it has proclaimed early and late, in season and out, the value to the Southern farmer of the Southern cowpea. A quarter of a century ago, Mr. A. P. Ford, of South Carolina, wrote a series of articles, running through a number of years, expounding the merits and setting forth the value to Southern agriculture of the Southern cowpea.

Odds and Ends.

Dr. J. W. Welling, a missionary to Brazil, who is visiting South Carolina, presented to Wofford College, his alma mater, a number of pictures of the natural scenery and natives of Brazil, says the Spartanburg Journal. The collection is highly appreciated by the trustees and faculty of Wofford. Dr. Wofford left Spartanburg last night for Columbia. He and Mrs. Welling will return to Brazil within the next few weeks.

News of the Day.

Major John W. Daniel, United States Senator of Virginia, has accepted the editorship of the "Confederate column" of the Richmond Times-Dispatch in making the announcement, says: "In writing his narrative he will deal in facts, and not in fiction. He will write history, and he will tell the simple truth, nothing extenuating nor setting down aught in malice."

John F. Boyd and his wife have given to the city of San Rafael one of the beauty spots around San Francisco Bay, finely laid out grounds of twenty acres, with a large and handsome building, in memory of their dead one.

Every little while some one has discovered a new plant that is a wonder, or some old plant is rejuvenated and paraded for special favor. Possibly it may be of some value upon certain grades of soil, but is totally unfit for general use. Just now there is an attempt to impress the public with cassava, the plant from which tapioca is made. It is a moderately nutritious, starchy root, that thrives on very poor soil. Six tons of roots per acre is an exceedingly good crop. Pound for pound it is not equal to green alfalfa. Alfalfa costs less per pound, yields four times as many pounds per acre, and is perennial.

More pounds of sweet potatoes can be grown to the acre and they are fully equal. Fortunately cassava is not very well adapted to rice land.—Rice Journal.

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The result of the Southern farmer have been a pretty increased. They will be wasted if they cultivate cotton and nothing else. Let them diversify their crops, let them spend some of their money for improvements around the house, for improved farm implements, let us go to work on every line by which we can reduce the cost of crops. Then we can face either short crops and high prices or abundant crops and low prices with something like satisfaction. And let us keep in mind this fact—that there is more in the man than in the land.—Home and Farm.

Making a Business.

One who has had experience and thoroughly understands the business can make the poultry business profitable almost anywhere. One who has had no experience should be very careful. The following from the Southern Agriculturist is very good advice:

A reader who is much interested in building up a poultry farm in the South says that he has eighty acres of land located on a main line of railroad between two cities of 20,000 and 40,000 inhabitants. He says the nature of the soil is dead and red, but that clover will grow rankly on it. There are a few springs on the hillside that may be used to advantage. This man wants to start into the egg business and asks how many incubators and how many hundred head of good pullets he should buy to start with.

He has one of the essential points of success, for he wants nothing but pure-bred stock to work with. White Leghorns are the fowls he wants to use in this egg business.

He should not start with incubators, but with one incubator and a pen of ten or twelve pullets and a cockerel. His incubator and brooder can be bought this winter and he can profitably put in some time trying to hatch "store eggs" or those he can buy up among the farmers near his small suburban home. He does not live on the farm now, but in a small place in the outskirts of town. Here he can put in two good years of work while hanging on to his office work. The pen of pullets will lay enough eggs to keep an incubator busy all season. As he becomes proficient he can spread out until he will have to move to his farm. On his small place he can learn how to mate, raise and select his best fowls. He can learn how to fight lice and produce early spring eggs for his incubators. These and a thousand other things will keep him so busy while out of office that the time will go in a hurry. If he undertakes too much before he has had experience, the chances are that he will hear of his quitting in disgust. It will take two years for him to acquire a good working knowledge, and in each year thereafter he will learn twice as much. Let him read largely, but sift the chaff from the wheat; stick to the business, and make it win, if you can. Ask questions, and study for yourself. Get to the bottom of the troubles you meet, but never let them twice get you down. Remember that health and size are the two things to keep right in the parent stock, then ill with chicks will not be too hard to conquer. After getting things going, then begin to hunt the best markets. Try to arrange to supply swell hotels and restaurants with your brand of table eggs. When you prove that yours are best the price will not cut any figure—the demand will not be easy to fill if the reputation holds good.

Cassava.

Every little while some one has discovered a new plant that is a wonder, or some old plant is rejuvenated and paraded for special favor. Possibly it may be of some value upon certain grades of soil, but is totally unfit for general use. Just now there is an attempt to impress the public with cassava, the plant from which tapioca is made. It is a moderately nutritious, starchy root, that thrives on very poor soil. Six tons of roots per acre is an exceedingly good crop. Pound for pound it is not equal to green alfalfa. Alfalfa costs less per pound, yields four times as many pounds per acre, and is perennial.

More pounds of sweet potatoes can be grown to the acre and they are fully equal. Fortunately cassava is not very well adapted to rice land.—Rice Journal.

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